

## **U.S. Department of Justice**

**Executive Office for Immigration Review** 

Office of the General Counsel

5107 Leesburg Pike, Suite 1903 Falls Church, Virginia 22041

December 21, 2018

MuckRock News DEPT MR 62803 411A Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: FOIA 2019-3935

Dear Mr. Hoppock,

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) in which you seek documents from Chief Counsel Marlene Wahowiak.

Ms. Wahowiak's calendar for the requested period is enclosed. There will be no fee for this information.

As Ms. Wahowiak is the Office of General Counsel's Chief Counsel for Employee and Labor Relations, any and all communications between her and EOIR leadership concerning removal of Immigration Judge Morley from the Castro-Tum case are privileged as Attorney-Client communications pursuant to 5 U. S.C. § 552(b)(5). Additionally, any documents (including e-mail communications) prepared by Ms. Wahowiak in reasonable anticipation of litigation regarding the removal of Judge Morley from the Castro-Tum case are privileged as Attorney Work Product, and may also be privileged under the Deliberative Process Privilege. Therefore, there are no releasable communications that have not been or will be released to you under other requests.

For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist. See http://www.justice.gov/oip/foiapost/2012foiapost9.html.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at the telephone number 703-605-1297 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information

for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with my response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Suite 11050, 1425 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following web site: <a href="https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home">https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home</a>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

Sincerely,

Joseph Schaaf

Joseph R. Schaaf Chief Counsel for Administrative Law